

THE SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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THE EDITOR'S NOTES

By John R. Rice

IN THIS ISSUE WE PRESENT THE article, "Is There Literal, Physical Fire in Hell?" which we believe will be of deep interest. Recently we have published sermons on Hell by two great soul winners who believe that there is a literal Hell of eternal torment for sinners, but who did not positively say they believed the Bible taught there was literal, physical fire in this literal Hell which they preach. A pastor asked that this teaching be given here to settle the minds of his people and others, and we think he is wise. If any one feels that the subject is too horrible to contemplate or talk about, we remind you that the dear Lord Jesus Himself spoke again and again of "hell fire." He said He would send sinners to "everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels," "into a furnace of fire," and the place "where the fire is not quenched and the worm dieth not." The literal language of the Lord Jesus Christ ought to be good enough for His servants and we ought to use that kind of terminology in our preaching since Jesus used it in His. I should especially like to hear from gospel preachers who read the article, "Is (Continued on page 5)

When Wars and Atom Bombs Will be no More

By Dr. Lee Roberson, Pastor Highland Park Baptist Church,
President, Tennessee Temple College, Chattanooga, Tennessee

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years."—Rev. 20:6.

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."—Isa. 2:4.

Through the centuries men have been questioning, "Will this world ever have world-wide peace?" Some have said, "Yes," and devoted much time and money to bring about peace on earth. They vainly imagined that they could reform human nature and stop war.

Others have said, "There will always be war. There will never be any change in this world."

Still others have searched the Scriptures and found two things: First, the impossibility of a warless world by the efforts of man, and secondly, the certainty of a warless world by the coming of Christ.

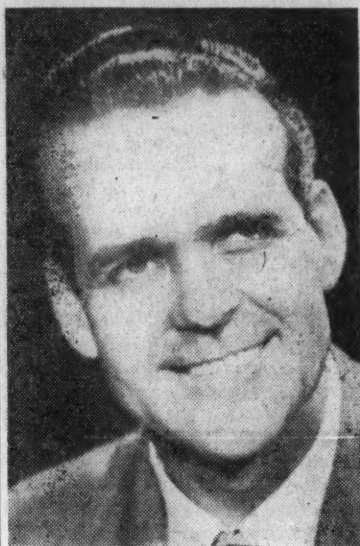
Yes, it is clearly revealed in the Bible that a day of peace and prosperity is coming. This period will practically equal the beauty of the garden of Eden before sin entered in.

We are talking in this message of the coming of Christ and His personal reign upon the earth. I call your attention to seven

characteristics of the Golden Age which is to come.

I. Satan Will Be Chained

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a lit-



Dr. Lee Roberson

tle season."—Rev. 20:1-3.

In a recent message I dealt with the matter of the chaining of Satan. I called attention to the character, the career, and the chains of the Devil. You will remember that we emphasized the Devil is not bound now, but one day he shall be. He is going to be bound like a common criminal and cast into the bottomless pit.

Before world conditions can improve, the influence of Satan must be stopped. As long as he is the prince of the power of the air, and the god of this world, there will be sin and darkness.

For hundreds of years Bibles have been distributed. Missionaries have gone to all portions of the earth. Millions have accepted

Christ, but still sin is rampant upon the earth. We know that Satan is back of this.

Thank God, Satan is going to be bound. In Revelation 19 we see the Lord coming in power and great glory. He came to the awful battle of Armageddon and laid hold upon the Beast and false prophet. They were cast into the lake of fire. The armies of the world dictator were slain, and now in Revelation 20, we see that as Christ begins His kingdom upon the earth, Satan will be chained and his power broken.

II. The Nature of Wild Beasts Will Be Changed

The Bible does not contain many more interesting promises than this one about the changing of the instincts of wild beasts.

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people, to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious."—Isa. 11:6-10.

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As Jesus Passed

By Missionary Norman Lewis

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"And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him."—Matt. 9:9.

"And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out."—Luke 13:22-28.

My texts tell of two different times when Jesus passed by. Are they not suggestive? The King of England cannot travel without having his every act observed. He cannot move among men without leaving an indelible impression upon thousands who watch him pass. What must it be, then, when the Lord of Glory passes by?

Our first text is Matthew's own story of his conversion. That text leads us on to the brightness of an endless day. It leads us on to the writing of a Gospel, to the wearing of a crown. Matthew came to grips with Jesus as He passed by, and found a salvation that will outlast the stars.

Not so in my other text. Here also Jesus is present. But the scene moves on from sunlight to shadows, and from shadows to outer night. For in this case when Jesus passed by, men did not close with Him, but let Him go. And the pointed words of Jesus sweep across the ages and show us these men weeping and gnashing their teeth, seeing God's servants and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, and themselves thrust out. Yet, each of those men, like Matthew, had

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Rev. Norman Lewis

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IS THERE LITERAL, PHYSICAL FIRE IN HELL?

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shalt cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."—Matt. 13:41, 42.

"I am tormented in this flame."—Luke 16:24.

"Whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."—Matt. 5:22.

"So shall it be at the end of the world; the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."—Matt. 13:49, 50.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."—Matt. 25:41.

"And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." (repeated twice over, concerning feet and eyes also).—Mark 9:43-48.

"But he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."—Matt. 3:12.

"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."—II Thess. 1:8.

"The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with

fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb; and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night."—Rev. 14:10, 11.

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."—Rev. 20:14, 15.

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."—Rev. 21:8.

Is there a literal, physical fire in Hell? Will lost sinners in Hell suffer literal, physical torment of body, the torment of fire?



Dr. John R. Rice

The Bible repeatedly, from one end to the other, teaches that Hell is a place of fire. The modernists and liberals teach that there is no Hell. Many who claim to be fundamentalists or conservatives say that the Bible passages teaching a physical Hell with literal fire are figurative in meaning. This is, I believe because they have not studied the matter afresh, for themselves in the Bible, but have simply accepted the current teachings without seeing for themselves what God has said. But it has resulted that the whole Chris-

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The Gospel at a Glance

By Charles L. Ramsay

GOD'S BIG DIPPER



This is one in a series of religious cartoons drawn by Charles L. Ramsay which will appear weekly. They are reprinted by special permission from 101 *Christian Cartons* by Charles L. Ramsay and may be secured for \$1.00 from THE SWORD OF THE LORD, 214 W. Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Literal, Physical Fire In Hell?

(Continued from page 1)

tain world has lost its fear of Hell, and with it has lost the soul-winning passion. To Christians all over the world, Hell has cooled. That means that Calvary means less, there is less emphasis on redemption by the blood of Christ, there is less teaching about sin, very little warning of judgment, and almost universal powerlessness and fruitlessness on the part of Christians. Our hearts are turning toward modernism while our heads still accept the letter of the Bible. At the same time, the unbelieving world trends more and more to scoffing and scorn about the things of God.

Thus it seems necessary for Christians to make a renewed study of the Bible doctrine of Hell. Oh, if there is a literal Hell of eternal torment, if it has real fire in it, and if poor lost souls will suffer eternally in physical torment as well as mental torment in this physical Hell of literal fire, then we ought to know it!

With this in mind, I call your attention to what seems to me to be the overwhelming proof that Hell is a literal lake of fire, a place of literal, physical torment for the unconverted, the Christ rejector, who dies without being born again.

I. Hell Is a Physical Place

There is abundant proof in the Bible that Hell is a literal, physical place.

First, the Bible expressly says so. In Luke 16:28, the poor rich man who cried out from Hell plead with Abraham that someone should warn his five brethren, "lest they also come into this PLACE OF TORMENT." The personal testimony of a man who went there, as recorded in the words of Jesus Christ, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, says that Hell is a "place of torment." Jesus cer-

tainly intended people to believe that Hell is a literal, physical place. And that was true even though the rich man's body had not yet been raised from the dead, Hell, even now, before the resurrection of the unsaved, is a literal, physical place.

Second, since Hell will be the home of people with literal, physical bodies, it must be a physical place. And the Scriptures clearly teach the resurrection of the bodies of the unsaved people. Daniel 12:2 says, "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." Notice that Daniel refers to the body that 'sleeps in the dust of the earth,' and that the bodies of the unsaved will rise, the same as the bodies of the saved. Again Jesus said in John 5:28-29, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." There is a resurrection of damnation, and the bodies of unsaved people, in the graves, shall hear the voice of Jesus Christ and shall come forth! And the "resurrection of damnation" must be resurrection to a physical place because it is for physical bodies which will have come out of the grave. That resurrection of the bodies of the unsaved dead is pictured in Revelation 20:12-13, where we learn that the sea will deliver up the dead which are in it, and death and Hell will deliver up the dead which are in them to face the last judgment and then be cast into the lake of fire. Obviously, physical bodies demand a physical habitation. Since there are resurrected bodies, literal, physical bodies, to be in Hell, then Hell is a physical place.

Not only does the Bible expressly tell about the resurrection of the bodies of the unsaved people, but Matthew 10:28 says: "But rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Bodies will go to Hell! We are told three times in the Bible, that every knee shall bow to God and every tongue shall confess (Isa. 45:23, Rom. 14:11, and Phil. 2:10, 11). And that is referring to the unsaved after they are dead; so the bodies of the unsaved dead

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must have literal knees and literal tongues that they may bow before Christ at the last judgment and that they may confess to Him.

Third, the fact that Heaven is a place requires that Hell should be a place. Jesus said in John 14:2: "I go to prepare a PLACE for you." And if Heaven is a real, physical place with streets, walls, gates, trees, fruit, a river, mansions, and a throne, then Hell also must certainly be a real, literal, physical place.

Now, if Hell is a literal, physical place, it has a temperature. Temperature is a property of matter. Every physical body has some temperature. Every stick, every stone, every bit of earth and water and air in the universe has some temperature. So Hell, being a physical place, has a temperature. It is either cold or hot or moderate. Do you think the temperature there is seventy degrees? Do you think it is air-conditioned for comfort? Do you think that Hell was particularly designed for the happiness and perfect health and enjoyment of the Christ-rejecting sinners who go there? Do you not think that if Hell is a place of punishment, the temperature might well be a part of that punishment? Well, Hell is a physical place and has some temperature, and the Bible says it is hot. The Bible calls it a "lake of fire, burning with brimstone." The Saviour spoke of "hell-fire." He said it is a place "where the fire is not quenched." Since there must be some temperature in Hell, why not believe what the Bible says instead of guessing something else?

II. Many Bible Types of Hell Show Punishment by Fire

The Bible is exquisitely accurate in all its types of pictures, and recurring again and again in the Bible are stories of how God punished people with fire for their sins. Fire is a proper symbol of the wrath of God and is so used throughout the Bible. What more fitting then that Hell should be a lake of fire and that there should be flames of torment there?

Here are some striking examples of where God's judgment on sin came by fire.

1. In Genesis 19:24 we read that "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven." And we are told that Abraham "looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace" (Gen. 19:28). How like the Bible description of Hell that is! There was fire, there was brimstone; and Revelation 21:8 says that Hell is "the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone," while Revelation 14:10 says that the lost "shall be tormented with fire and brimstone"; and the following verse, Revelation 14:11 says, "And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever." Sodom was destroyed with fire and brimstone, and the smoke went up like that of a furnace. Was not that meant as a type of Hell? Was not God's wrath poured out literally, physically, on those wicked men of Sodom as it will be poured out on the lost in Hell? And we know that it was literal, physical fire that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. An archeological expedition, led by Dr. Melvin Grove Kyle, discovered evidences of the brimstone (sulphur) amid burned rocks around the Dead Sea which covers the ruins of ancient Sodom.

In fact, God plainly tells us, in II Peter 2:6, that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is "an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly." That fire and brimstone was a sample of Hell!

2. Nadab and Abihu, the sons of

Aaron, sinned by using strange fire on the altar. God had given heavenly fire on the altar to burn the sacrifice which Aaron had offered, but in unbelief they took, we suppose, fire from the ordinary camp fire in their censers, "and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord" (Lev. 10:1, 2). Here again the wrath of God is shown and His punishment for sin is by fire on physical bodies.

3. God's punishment on the rebels of the whole nation of Israel was by fire also. In Numbers 11:1, 2 we read, "And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the Lord, the fire was quenched." Again God's judgment on sin was by fire, physical fire on literal people. Do you believe that fire was literal fire? Then why not believe the fire in Hell is literal fire too?

4. Achan, who brought a curse on Israel when they came to the battle of Ai, was stoned and then burned with fire as punishment. Joshua 7:25 says, "And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the Lord shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones." Remember that

this was a public punishment for a most serious sin, a warning to the whole nation; and here God expressed His wrath with fire on the sinners involved, physical fire on the physical sinners. Though Moses and the people did it, it was following the express commandment of God, who in verse 15 had said "And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the Lord, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel." So the fire was expressly commanded and intended to be more significant than the stoning. It here pictures God's judgment on the physical bodies of sinners.

5. In II Kings 1:10-12, Elijah asked that God should let fire come down from Heaven and consume the two groups of fifty soldiers with the captain in each. "And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty." And the second time the same thing happened. It was obviously the physical manifestation of the wrath of God on wicked, presumptuous, Godless men.

6. In Revelation chapters 8 and 9, six trumpets are said to sound as signals of great woes and afflictions that will come to wicked people on the earth during the tribulation. Those curses include water turned to blood; the star, wormwood, which is to fall from Heaven poisoning the waters of the earth, the smiting of the sun to bring darkness, the armies of sinful men to be devil possessed,

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Dr. Bob Jones Says:

Sometimes people think of Bob Jones University just as a preachers' school or missionary school. Well, it is no more a preachers' school or missionary school than it is a teachers' school or business school or some other kind of school. It is true that one-third of our students last year were young men preparing for the ministry and one-sixth of our students were missionary volunteers. We, however, had quite a large number of young men and young women who were taking the teacher training course and who are going to be Christian school teachers and will be teaching in all sections of America as well as in other lands.

Sometimes people say, "Bob Jones University does not say much about its academic standards." Well, we would like to tell you people something about our academic standards. We say this deliberately, and we do not apologize for it: *In the fields of our emphasis*, there is no institution anywhere that has any higher academic standards than we have in Bob Jones University. There is no institution in this country that has any better trained scholars in the field of religion than we have here in this institution. The same emphasis we have here in the field of religion we have in all the other fields. Everybody knows that our School of Fine Arts is outstanding. We have a wonderful department of music, and there is no institution with any better speech department than we have here at Bob Jones University. *All of our graduating seniors are required to take the Graduate Record Examination.* We have compared the scores made by these graduates with the scores made by the graduates of some of the leading universities in America, and the scores made by our graduates (all of whom are required to take the examination) compare most favorably with the scores made by the students in these universities where only those take the examination who elect to take it. Our graduating seniors last year who took the teacher training course stood the National Teacher Examination, and 89 per cent of these graduates made A's and 11 per cent made B's. All educational experts understand the meaning of these figures.

We could emphasize our academic standards, but we believe here in Bob Jones University that the first business of a Christian institution of any kind is to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ to the supreme place, and a Christian institution is not to underscore academic standards but underscore the Gospel and regeneration

and saving faith. *A Christian institution that puts Jesus Christ first will have as good academic standards as it is possible for the institution to have.* The trouble with most of us Christians, including even many of our fundamentalists, is that we have been shoving the Lord Jesus Christ around. We believe that God has prospered Bob Jones University because we have told our students over and over again that their supreme business in this world is to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, to give the Gospel to people, and to win the lost to our blessed Saviour. We tell our students over and over again, "You have not come to Bob Jones University to learn how to match wits with sinners. You are taking this training so you can be at ease as you come in contact with all different types of people in order to give the Gospel to these people." Paul was all things to all men that by all means he might win some. Paul could not have been all things to all men if he had not been an educated man. He was at home with the Jews, and he felt perfectly at ease when he was associating with the Greeks. He did not use any of his contacts to match wits with men. He used his contacts to give these people the Gospel. This is the educational approach of Bob Jones University, and we believe that is the reason God has blessed this school in such a wonderful way. We are asking our friends with all the earnestness of our hearts to pray that we may never waver and that this school may stay true until Jesus comes again. We are calling on all of our friends to help us in a financial way by contributing to the Student Loan Endowment Fund so we will be able to help worthy students who are not able to pay in full all their expenses in order to get the type of training we offer here. We are receiving letters from prospective students asking for loans, and we do not want to be tempted to turn away students who can be trained for Christian leadership and soul winning because they haven't enough money to pay their way in full. If you people will help us raise this million-dollar Student Loan Endowment Fund, you will help us solve the problem of helping young people that need help and also help us solve the problem of paying our operating overhead as the school continues to function for our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Please let us hear from you. God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder
Bob Jones University
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Literal, Physical Fire in Hell?

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and men to be tormented with the sting of these hellish locusts, but not able to die—these are some of the terrible plagues. All of them represent the punishment and judgment of sin, but fire is prominent throughout the chapter. In chapter 9, verse 18 we are told, "By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths," that is, out of the mouths of horses from Hell. This is clearly a judgment of God upon the physical bodies of men and must be symbolic of the judgment of God upon physical people in Hell. It indicates that there is literal fire and brimstone and smoke in Hell!

7. In Revelation 18 we have the story of the mighty city, Babylon, the seat of the antichrist, and how the city shall be destroyed by fire from God. Verse 8 says "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her." And succeeding verses tell how the kings of the earth and the merchants will "lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning." But all heaven and the holy apostles and prophets will rejoice over her, "for God hath avenged you on her" (verse 20). That is expressly said to be the judgment of God on that physical city, wicked Babylon. And does it not then picture the torments of Hell where God will judge the wicked sinners in physical bodies for their sin?

8. In fact, the valley of Hinnom, that horrible place outside Jerusalem where dead bodies were burned, a place of decaying offal and worms, and of a fire never put out, is used as a type of Hell. And in the New Testament the word Hinnom becomes Gehenna, one of the Greek words used for Hell; and Jesus, with that picture in mind, warns people that Hell is a place where "the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:43-49). That place of stinking offal, of maggots, of never-extinguished fire and smoke, reminded Jesus of Hell! Does not that indicate what Hell, the physical place for the confinement of wicked sinners with physical bodies, is like?

I maintain that all these examples, plus many more warnings that God is like a consuming fire, and that His wrath will burn with fury, show that God's judgment on sinners' physical bodies in Hell will include literal fire.

III. The Burnt Offerings and All Animal Sacrifices of the Old Testament Pictured the Wrath of God Upon Sin

We know that the sacrifices of

the Old Testament all pictured Jesus. The lamb pictured Christ, the Lamb of God, the innocent One who would take away the sins of the world, paying for them with His blood. The young bullock represented Christ the burden-bearing Saviour. The scape-goat represented Christ who takes our blame and carries away our sins. The mourning turtle-dove must picture Christ as the Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And the pure white pigeon must have pictured Christ the innocent One, pure and stainless, who came to save us poor wicked sinners. The passover lamb represented Christ also.

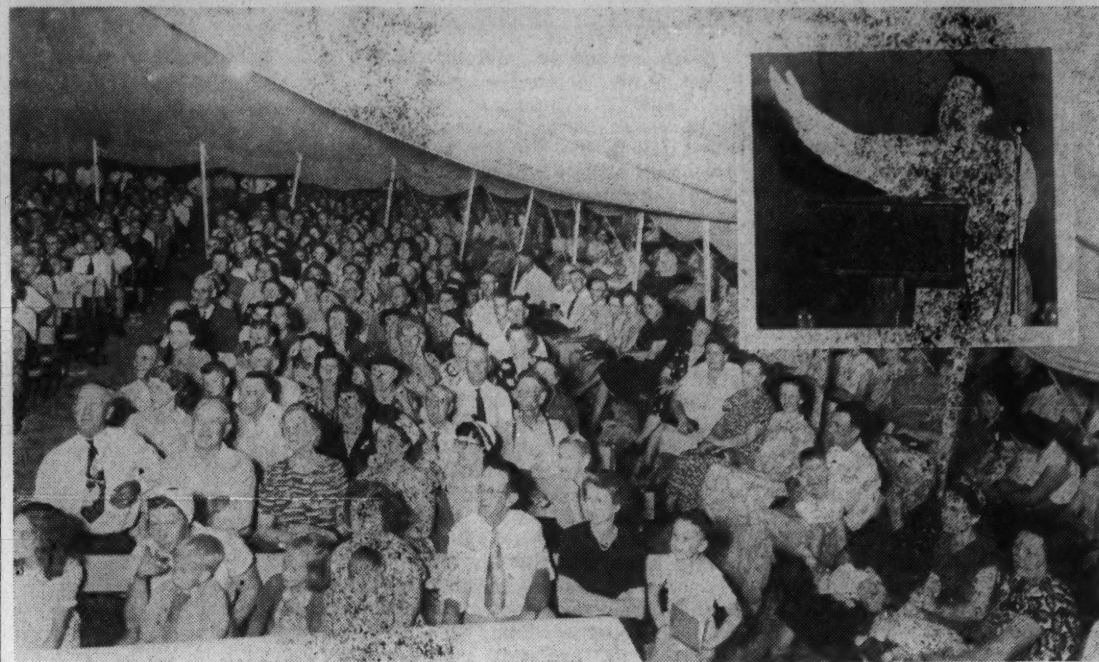
Two things stand out in our minds as we read God's Word telling about the sacrifices: *the blood and the fire!* The blood of every sacrifice was shed, showing how Christ would pour out His soul for sin and pay our debt by His death on the cross. But the fire must have pictured the wrath of God which Jesus bore for us. Jesus died as I ought to have died. He suffered the punishment of the damned, Jesus suffered the torments of Hell. We will not now argue about whether Jesus literally went to Hell or not. I think that when He said, "It is finished," the atonement was finished, that He went that day to Paradise with the dying thief, and that the Heavenly Father received His spirit. But certain it is that when Jesus suffered not only physical death for us, in some sense He suffered spiritual death, too. God turned His face away from His own Son for our sakes. And back of the bloody sweat of the garden, back of the thirst on the cross, back of the scourging, the spitting, the crown of thorns, and the nails and the spear is the horrible fact that Christ was made sin for us and suffered a sinner's punishment. The infinite Christ, without any limit to His capacity for suffering, could have, in a moment, suffered the tortures of the damned for eternity in Hell. And when Christ "tasted death" for every man, then we may be sure He tasted the second death, too, the tortures of Hell.

There is no way for a finite, limited mind to understand all of the wrath of God and the sufferings of our Saviour. But with meticulous care throughout the whole Old Testament, the burning of sacrifices and offerings is discussed so that we might get some idea of what it really meant for Jesus to go to the cross. All of the law, all the ceremonies, all the Old Testament teachings were simply "a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ," and they pictured how he took the place of a sinner, and bore the sinner's judgment.

How strange, how striking, is the thought, then, that all these sacrifices required fire!

Leviticus 1:3-9 describes the offering of the bullock for a burnt offering. In verse 9 it says: "And the priest shall burn all on the altar, to be a burnt-sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord." And the following verses tell how the sheep or goat which is brought

Rice Convert Becomes Full-Time Evangelist



Last May our editor, John R. Rice, had a city-wide revival campaign at Springfield, Missouri. Among the many converts was widely-known auctioneer Bill Hagel, an instructor in Reppert's Auction School, Decatur, Indiana. Hagel has calls throughout the Midwest for big auction sales. His specialty is pure-bred stock. As soon as Bill was saved he had burden to win souls and began to give his testimony and in a few weeks he was holding revival campaigns. He has just closed a tent revival campaign in Marshfield, Missouri, in which there were 79 professions. Local newspaper reported crowds of fifteen hundred to two thousand. Now auctioneer Hagel is making plans to give up all other work but the Lord's work. He needs further training, and covets our prayers.

for a sacrifice should also be burnt upon the altar, or how the turtle doves and young pigeons should be burnt upon the altar.

Leviticus chapter 2 tells how a meat offering of fine flour may be brought. "And the priest shall burn the memorial of it upon the altar." Or how "an oblation of a meat-offering baken in the oven" is to be offered. Or of a "meat-offering baken in the frying pan." And how "the priest shall take from them meat-offering a memorial thereof, and shall burn it upon the altar: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the Lord." The same chapter tells how the first fruits of green ears of corn, dried by the fire, shall be offered with frankincense, and how "the priest shall burn the memorial of it, part of the beaten corn thereof, and part of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof: it is an offering made by fire unto the Lord."

Then in the book of Leviticus and elsewhere further instructions are given about sweet-savour offerings, peace offerings, sin offerings, and how parts of these must always be burned, or all of them. *Wherever God's judgment on sin is pictured, there must be fire!*

In Exodus 12 we are told about the offering of the passover lamb down in Egypt and how that offering was to be repeated, a lamb for a family, on the same day every year. The lamb pictured Christ; but after the blood was put upon the two side-posts and on the upper door post of the houses, then the lamb was to be roasted whole with fire. In Exodus 12:9 God says: "Eat not of it raw, nor sodden (boiled) at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof." The lamb was to be cooked without a drop of water; and what can that mean but that there is no water in Hell, just as there was no alleviation of the sufferings of Christ for sinners?

Do you think that there is any significance at all to this divinely inspired provision of sacrifices being burned with fire? Do these animals offered in sacrifice picture Christ our Saviour? Does the blood there spilt in such a river down through the centuries picture the blood of our Saviour, God's Lamb, who would take away the sins of the world? Of course you believe that that is true. Then does not the fire represent the wrath of God on sinners, the judgment of God, the physical punishment even of God's wrath upon sinners in Hell? If it does not mean that, then what else could it mean? Surely Hell must be a place of fire.

IV. The Bible Expressly States Many Times that Hell Is a Place of Real Fire

I have deliberately left the plain positive statements in the Bible, that there is fire in Hell, unto the last; but they are so plain, so often repeated, so unambiguous, that if there were never a sacrifice, never a type in the whole Bible about Hell, these plain statements would settle the matter forever for Bible believers whose attention is prayerfully directed to them.

1. First, there is the plain statement reported by the Lord Jesus of the rich man in Hell, who "cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." The rich man in Hell said there was real fire there and that he was tormented in the flames. His witness, surely, since it is authenticated by the Lord Jesus Himself, ought to be received in any court in the land. *He knew!*

2. Jesus, in Matthew 5:22 said "But whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." Here is a plain word of Jesus that fire is a condition in Hell!

3. Jesus, in Matthew 13:24-30, tells of the tares which an enemy sowed in a good man's field, and at the harvest time the tares were gathered and burned. Jesus was asked to explain and interpret the parable, and He did. In Matthew 13:40-42 He said, "As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Nothing can be plainer than this statement of Jesus Christ that the Son of man, (Christ Himself) shall send forth His angels, and that these angels will cast the wicked "into a furnace of fire."

Jesus could have said the wicked would be cast into a place of tormenting conscience, but that is not what he said. He could have said it was a place of sorrow of which fire might be a symbol, but He did not. Then why not believe what He did say, that Hell is "a furnace of fire"?

4. In the same thirteenth chapter of Matthew Jesus told the story of a net cast into the sea, gathering of every kind of fish, and how the fishermen, when it was full, drew the net to shore and sat down and gathered the good into vessels but cast the bad fish away. And then Jesus interpreted His meaning in these words given in Matthew 13:49, 50, "So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnash-

ing of teeth." Again Jesus repeats the same statement, that at the end of the world (the consummation of this age), the angels shall come forth, take the wicked from among the just "shall cast them into the furnace of fire." And what is "the furnace of fire" but Hell itself?

5. In Matthew 25 Jesus tells of the judgment of the people who will be left alive after the battle of Armageddon when Jesus comes to sit on His throne. In verse 41, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." And where is that everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels? Obviously, it is Hell. Hell is a place of everlasting fire.

6. In Mark 9:43-49 Jesus gives a solemn warning of Hell, in these words: "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt."

Seven times in that brief passage Jesus mentioned fire. And He expressly says that people with hands and feet will go into Hell, people with eyes will go into Hell, and three separate times He says that we had better go into Heaven with one foot, or one hand, or one eye, than to go into Hell having two hands or feet or eyes, "where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."

Nothing could be more explicit than this plain, sober statement of Jesus Christ that Hell is a place of fire. Do you believe what He said?

7. Paul, by divine inspiration, in II Thessalonians tells us Christ will return to the earth, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power." Do you believe the vengeance of the Lord Jesus Christ is to be with "flaming fire"? Well, is that not exactly what He has promised?

8. Revelation 14:10, 11 tells of the horrible fate that awaits all those who will serve the antichrist; they will be cast into Hell, a place burning with fire and brimstone, and be tormented forever. Read the solemn words there given:

"The same shall drink of the (Continued on page 4)

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Wars and Atom Bombs No More

(Continued from page 1)

In this Scripture the Holy Spirit selects three wild and ferocious beasts and declares that the day shall come when they will be led about by a small child. Not only so, but the wolf will dwell with the lamb, the leopard with the kid, the young lion and the fatling together. The cow and the bear will feed together, and their young ones shall sleep together. The nature of a lion will be changed so that he shall eat straw like the ox.

And then, think of it, even a baby will be able to play with poisonous serpents, and there will be no danger of harm.

Isaiah 65:25 repeats this promise: "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."

When the nature of wild beasts is changed, it will certainly be as it was in the Garden of Eden. You will remember that everything was brought before Adam to see what he would call them. There is no indication that any animals were enemies of man. There is an indication that their natures were changed when the curse was put upon the earth because of sin. The Lord God said unto the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field, upon thy belly shalt thou go, and the dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life" (Gen. 3:14). The Scriptures say that the serpent was cursed above all cattle. We can only interpret this to mean that all cattle and beasts were cursed because of man's sin, but the serpent was cursed more.

When the Lord Jesus comes, animal nature will be changed to a peaceful state. What a glorious day that will be!

III. War Will Be at an End

One of the chief characteristics of this present age is war, and along with war, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes.

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."—Matt. 24:6-8.

Peace conferences may be held. Many good-sounding resolutions may be passed, but war will never cease until the Prince of Peace shall come. The United Nations, the alliances of nations, can never stop war. Jesus said that war, is a characteristic of the age, and so it will remain until He comes again.

In Micah 4:3, 4 we have a prophecy of that day to come when wars and atom bombs will be no more.

"And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it."

IV. The Knowledge of the Lord Will Cover the Earth

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."—Isa. 11:9.

In Habbakuk 2:14 we find this promise repeated:

"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

When Christ comes and takes up His reign, all forms of false worship will cease. Mohammedism, with its cruel trail of lust and blood; Romanism with its idolatries and superstitious practices; Buddhism and Confucianism will be at an end. The knowledge of the Lord will completely cover the earth.

With the knowledge of the Lord covering the earth there will be righteousness. There can be no righteousness until people know the Lord. In the kingdom age we are assured there will be a worldwide righteousness.

V. The Curse on the Earth Will Be Removed

When Adam and Eve sinned, they brought not only a curse upon the cattle and the beasts of the field, but also upon the ground itself.

God said unto Adam, "Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."—Gen. 3:17-19.

The entire earth is under a curse. Man is able to gain for himself bread only by the sweat of his brow.

The extent of this curse upon the earth is illustrated by the land of Palestine. In the Book of Numbers we are told that it was once a land flowing with milk and honey. When the spies were sent out to view the land, they came back carrying a bunch of grapes so large that it took two men to carry it between them. Palestine was once a rich and happy place, but sin brought a curse upon it. The trees disappeared. The soil washed away, and the land became a desert.

The curse will be removed from Palestine, and we believe from much of the earth.

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing; the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold your God will come with vengeance, even with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing; for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. and the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those; the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."—Isa. 35:3-10.

The earth will blossom like a rose when Jesus establishes His kingdom upon the earth.

VI. The Saints Will Rule and Reign With Christ

Paul said, "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world?" (I Cor. 6:2). And again, he said, "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us" (II Tim. 2:12).

The promise oft repeated in Revelation 20 is that "they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Jesus gave a parable of the talents. To the men of five talents and two talents, who were faithful in service, he said, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant,

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Literal, Physical Fire In Hell?

(Continued from page 3)

wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

"Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His Kingdom spread from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more."

He is coming to reign, and we who are His followers will followers will reign with Him.

We face a wonderful, glorious prospect. If we love the Lord, we will be looking for His coming, and until He comes we will let Him reign and have full right of way in our hearts.

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If the Bible can be believed, then Hell is a place of fire and brimstone and smoke; it is a place of torment "day and night"; and the smoke of their torment ascends forever, as proof that God hates sin and that sin cannot go unpunished! Does not that Scripture teach that there is a literal fire in Hell?

9. In Revelation 20:11-15 we have the story of the last judgment of the unsaved dead. We read how that the sea and the graves give up the bodies of the unsaved dead and their spirits come out of Hell to face Jesus Christ on His great white judgment throne and how the books

(Continued on page 5)

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Literal, Physical Fire In Hell?

(Continued from page 4)

with their records will be opened and every one will be judged according to their works. And then all will be sent to Hell to suffer proportionately according to their deeds. Verses 14 and 15 of this twentieth chapter of Revelation read:

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

This is a punishment for people with resurrected bodies. And with physical bodies these people will be cast into the lake of fire. If the resurrection is literal, then Hell is literal. If the bodies are physical bodies, then Hell is a physical Hell. If the judgment is literal, then why should not the fire and brimstone be literal? Hell is a lake of fire!

10. Revelation 21:8 again tells us that Hell is a lake of fire burning with brimstone. It says, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." This second death means to have a part in "the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone."

What can we say to all these Scriptures and many others, but that Jesus obviously intended for us to believe that Hell is a place of literal fire and brimstone of physical torment for the unconverted who would not repent!

It is to be noted in the above Scriptures that Hell is said to have fire in it now, when only the lost souls of men and women are there without their bodies. The rich man "was buried; and in Hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments," and he said, "I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:22-24). Although his body was in the grave, he had all his physical senses in Hell and was tormented in the flame.

His tongue was in the grave, but he felt all the horrors of a tongue parched with thirst. Even lost souls in Hell today are tormented in flames though their bodies have not been resurrected and judged and sent to Hell.

Likewise in Matthew 25:41, we are told that Jesus, when He comes to reign on earth at the beginning of the thousand years and long before the resurrection of the bodies of the unsaved dead at the close of the thousand years, as told in Revelation 20:11-15, will say to the unsaved, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." So, there is a present Hell where there are only spirits and not bodies. And this is a Hell of "everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

And then later, after the bodies of the unsaved will be brought out of the grave and out of the sea, after the last judgment is done, the poor lost sinners will depart, soul and body, into the "lake of fire," which burns with brimstone. Hell is a place of everlasting fire.

V. Accompanying Features in the Bible Description of Hell Indicate That the Fire Is Literal Fire

The Bible's accounts and descriptions of Hell are very literal, and the features which accompany these descriptions are features which seem surely to be literal.

1. For instance, the rich man in Hell prayed, "Father Abraham, (Continued on page 6)

As Jesus Passed

(Continued from page 1)

A Bright Personal Chance To Be Saved

Jesus was there. Oh, the contrast! What a difference for all eternity!

There are business men who for a lifetime have reproached themselves for not having seized an opportunity that came . . . and went forever. I read of a man and wife who were offered as a prospective location for their home a certain half-acre called "Sunset Hill" in California. They pondered the matter, and finally went elsewhere. Later oil was found under Sunset Hill that produced a fabulous fortune for the owner. What must have been the after thoughts of that man and wife who did not know in time the value of the offer that would have made them rich?

Listen, friend, all the black gold that ever gushed from the oil wells of earth has no value compared with one dear smile from the face of my Lord. You talk of riches! What will it be to spend eternity in His presence?

The world is full of Esaus who for a mess of the Devil's pottage sell their heavenly inheritance. What a pity! God has a rich gift for you. He has kept it for you all these years. He has pledged it to you and signed the promise in the blood of His Son. And Jesus is present just now. Will you throw yourself at His feet and claim the riches of salvation God offers you?

"Once to every man and nation Comes the moment to decide,

In the fight twixt good and evil, For the just and better side." Is it not notable that all the folks of my texts

Wanted To Be Saved

They all heard, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). But to Matthew's heart God's word struck home and found its echo, God said, "Now." Matthew's heart said "No." Jesus said to Matthew: "Follow me, and he arose and followed him."

The other folks said, "Not now, later." They used the Devil's word. If the Devil can sell you on that word "tomorrow," he will keep you sleeping till you wake up in Hell. That was the poisonous sleeping powder that cost the Roman governor Felix his soul. Felix let the Apostle Paul preach to him. The Bible even says, "He sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus." But oh, how Felix's tongue got dry, and his guilty heart burned, as Paul bore down on "righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come." Felix was terrified. Instead of coming to grips with the Christ of God, he stepped sideways in his guilt and shame "And Jesus passed by." And the night stars of Hell sang with fiendish glee as Felix was sealed for doom.

Yes, everyone wants to be saved, sometime. All the folks of our texts wanted to be saved. When the cold waters of eternity were lapping at their feet, then, too

Keeping Posted

WHERE TO SEE AND HEAR

Evangelist
JOHN R. RICE

AUGUST 14-19

Medicine Lake
(Near Minneapolis, Minn.)
Northwestern Schools Conference

AUGUST 20-27

Central Manor Camp Meeting
(Near Lancaster, Penna.)

AUG. 28-SEPT. 4

Indian Park Bible Conference
Williamsport, Penna.

late, they all got excited about their souls. How many who read this are within a heartbeat of Hell, kept contented by the Devil's sleeping powder?

The Opportunity Passed

I am sure the age in which we live is the grandest age this world has seen since man fell into sin. It is the age of the Holy Spirit. It is the age of the preaching of God's free grace. It is the age of the lifted cross. It is the age when we who love Jesus have been given the biggest job human hearts ever embraced—to tell every poor sinner, everywhere, "Jesus loves you; He died for you and rose (Continued on page 7)

Murderer Made Glad

From the Sword Mailbag

Allow me to thank you for the fine selection of books which your publishing house gave for our new Negro seminary here. We plan to affiliate ourselves as an extension branch of some larger school. To date we have received 76 volumes

and 33 pamphlets as gifts from various publishers. Yours, I believe, was the largest selection of materials—and so sincerely practical for the needs of the busy pastor.

Would you like a personal word as to what some of your pamphlets have meant to Negroes here already? Listen to this:

Clarence Joseph, Jr., 21 year old Negro of New Iberia, Louisiana, was electrocuted today shortly after noon for the self-confessed murder of a night watchman in St. Martinville, Louisiana. I was with Clarence from time to time during the last few weeks of his life and gave him a New Testament to read. In fact, he handed the New Testament down to me from the electric chair as he sat down to die. Then he put his head down to pray as they turned on the electricity. One of the last things Clarence read before he died was a copy of *Backsliders* and *Can A Saved Person Be Lost?*, two little booklets by Dr. Rice which you sent to us the other day. He said to tell you that he was so glad that the books arrived from you so that he could read both of them before he died. Clarence truly repented of his sins. He prayed for the family of the man he had killed. He prayed so hard that God would have mercy upon him for his sins.

Thank you so much for sending us the booklets in time for Clarence to get to read them.

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The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

There Literal, Physical Fire in Hell?"

AS WELL AS THE ARTICLE ON "Hell Fire," the editor, on the insistence of several of our workers, continues this week the series of radio messages on the home. Usually the editor will not take so much space, but the continuity of the series seems to make it wise this time.

READERS WILL NOTE THAT THE article "Is There Literal, Physical Fire in Hell?" is taken from the book, *Twelve Tremendous Themes*, a book of great doctrines. It discusses such matters as the inspiration and scientific accuracy of the Bible, the security of a believer, Sunday or Sabbath, Jesus May Come Today, Churches and the Church, etc. 177 large pages, \$1.50, but it may be had during August sale for \$1.20.

THOSE INTERESTED IN A STUDY ON the home may have the editor's big book of 22 chapters, 381 pages on *THE HOME; Courtship Marriage and Children*, at the special August sale price of \$2, regularly \$2.50.

RELIABLE WORD HAS COME ABOUT a professor in Moody Bible Institute who "poked fun" at Dr. R. A. Torrey for having all-night prayer meetings in Moody Bible Institute, praying for the power of the Holy Spirit for soul winning. We feel sad that the teaching of D. L. Moody and R. A. Torrey, who founded and built Moody Bible Institute, should be derided there, and we wonder if this may not be why this great school does not

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Norman Lewis Writes:

Christian activities, like a rushing river, bear us swiftly along, at times tumbling us head over heels, or leaving us half-drowned for a few days, like a washed-up thing beside the river. We long to make this brief word at least a cupful of news to you who mean so much to us.

Just before leaving for Mendoza, away West across Argentina, we printed 32,000 copies of *La Voz*, our soul-winning paper. In Mendoza I received word from my helper in Buenos Aires, that the 32,000 copies had all gone out, with requests for 3,000 additional copies at hand. Including my wonderful wife, we are now a staff of five giving our utmost to this work. My days in Mendoza were full of blessing, full of joy, some souls saved, the only sadness that caused by people who would not have our lovely Lord to reign over them. During the ten days I spoke in churches of the Free Brethren, the Methodists, the Baptists and the Pentecostals.

Everywhere, everywhere we see such opportunities for preaching Christ that our hearts fairly break, and our bodies almost, with longing to be able to meet great unmet needs. Following is part of one of the letters that to us are spiritual whips that will not let us rest nor take the easy way. The writer lives far to the North, and is known to us only by his letters. He says about *La Voz*:

"I can truthfully say that it is the best paper of its kind that I have seen in Spanish. If you can keep up to this standard, which I am sure you will try to do by the help of the Lord, He will make it a great blessing to precious souls wherever it is sent.

"We shall do the best we can to get subscribers. It is just marvelous how you can send them out at so low a cost when everything else is so expensive. "You will be glad to know that one of the boys in our young people's meeting likes *La Voz* so much that he has given me 10 pesos, and has promised me the same each month for copies to distribute. By the way, this boy is not yet

saved himself, but I believe he is not far from the Kingdom."

It is true we offer *La Voz* throughout the Spanish speaking world at half of cost price, thanks to our friends among God's people at home who demonstrate their faith in this soul winning publishing work. But the fact all-glorious to me is that although we live far out here in the gateway to South America, where we can strike more telling blows for Christ's sake than we ever could printing Spanish tracts in the homeland, yet the cost of printing those silent messengers out here is much less than it would be at home. Surely the 242,000 copies of *La Voz* already published have represented a wise, sound policy, and Heaven's rich blessing has rested upon them.

This week end I leave on a 28 hour train trip which will take me further toward the southern tip of South America than I have ever gone. The principal focus of these ten days will be a soul winning effort in two Baptist churches. Again and again my heart yearns to express to you the vastness of this continent and the depth of its spiritual need—but in vain! Only if your heart welcomes the daily cross and lives on resurrection ground with our matchless Lord can you understand. Oh, the greatness of God's plan! Our Christ lives yet, saves yet, as the marching days bring ever nearer His full triumph and final glory. He will come. Hallelujah!

Withal, we here, like our six little children, often stub our toes, fall down and cry salty tears like other folks. We are common clay. We need your letters and prayers, and they do us lots of good. But let us all ask God to make us "golden pipes"—which as the Bible says—"empty the golden oil out of themselves." For God's work is done now, and shall ever be, "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, sayeth the Lord of Hosts."

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Literal, Physical Fire in Hell?

(Continued from page 5)

have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue: for I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:24). If the fire in Hell were literal fire, then a man would crave literal water to cool his parching tongue, and quench his horrible thirst. But if the fire in Hell is only memory, or remorse of conscience, then what good would a drop of water do? And he wanted water "to cool my tongue." Now his tongue was not in Hell, to be sure, but all the physical senses of his body were in Hell. The feeling of his tongue was in Hell. The man saw, he heard, he felt, he thirsted, he cried, he prayed, he remembered! All his physical senses were in Hell. And it was a physical sense of torment that he wanted alleviated, not a sense of moral guilt. The man was suffering physical pain and wanted physical water to cool his physical sense of heat and thirst as he was tormented in flames. Everything about the statement indicates physical torment in literal fire.

2. Jesus said, in Matthew 13:42 that the angels shall take the wicked, the unsaved, "And shall cast them into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." The same statement, except that it is "the furnace of fire," is made by the Saviour in verse 50. Now if we believe there is a literal furnace of fire into which the unsaved shall be cast, it is simple to understand that the tormented ones will literally wail and will grit their teeth in physical anguish. But if the suffering is only mental, if the fire is not literal, then they would not grit their teeth. At hundreds of funerals I have seen people weep, but never saw them grit their teeth. But I have seen people gnash their teeth in pain, physical pain, with broken bones, with torn ligaments, with burns. This is a picture of physical pain in Hell, not a picture of a guilty conscience only.

3. Not only is there fire in Hell, as discussed in the Bible, but there is brimstone. If the fire in Hell were literal fire, like that which destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, then we should not be surprised if there were literal brimstone (sulphur) like that which fell on Sodom and Gomorrah with the fire. (And the surrounding country still bears evidence to the fire and brimstone, which destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) But if we argue that the fire in Hell is only figurative, then what is the brimstone? The people who argue that the fire in Hell means remorse of conscience never say what the brimstone means. Obviously, the brimstone is meant to be literal brimstone, and hence the fire must be literal fire.

4. Again and again in the Bible, the smoke of Hell is mentioned. Abraham saw the smoke of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah going up like the smoke of a furnace. And we are told that poor lost sinners in Hell will be tormented with fire and brimstone, and that "the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever." A literal, physical fire has smoke. But what kind of smoke does figurative fire have? If the fire only pictured memory, or conscience, then what would the smoke figure? The smoke of Hell is meaningless unless there is literal fire there.

VI. Conclusion

And my closing word is this. God says in Jude 23, "And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh." Beloved, if you get somebody saved, you are keeping them out of the fires of Hell! I think I know why Paul went about weeping, "night and day with tears" (Acts 20:31) when he so believed in a literal Hell of eternal fire and torment! I beg of you who read this, become consumed with a passion to save people from Hell! We may be fundamental in our heads, but most of us are partly infidels in our hearts for we have no real conception of the wickedness of sin, and we have no real conception of the marvel of God's love and His infinite grace expressed at Calvary! Most of us have no sense of the awfulness of sin and the certain, horrible doom of Christ-re-

jecting sinners!

Oh, brother, let us win souls while we may to keep them from the lake of fire, that awful place burning with brimstone, prepared for the devil and his angels!

(From the book, *Twelve Tremendous Themes*, 177 pages, by Dr. John R. Rice. Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois, Price, \$1.50.)

GOD SAYS WOMAN TO OBEY, BE SUBJECT TO HER HUSBAND

By Editor John R. Rice

(Seventh in a series of radio messages on the Home)

The woman, the wife, is to be subject to her husband, to obey her husband, to reverence her husband. Those are all Bible terms.

There are three scriptures I want us to read. The first is Genesis 3:16. When man had sinned and Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden, God said to the woman: "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

God intended that the husband should have rule over the wife.

"But that is in the Old Testament," you say. But the God who wrote the Old Testament through the hands of divinely-inspired men wrote the New Testament also, and in it He said the same thing. We read in Ephesians 5:22-24:

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing."

Notice that the scripture says, "Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." God intended that wives should be subject to their husbands. Then the Scripture continues:

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."

I want you to notice that every time this question comes up in the Bible, God gives a command to women first, then to men. Why? Because God wanted no alibis on this matter. God wants a woman to be subject to her husband. Husbands ought to do right, but fundamentally marriage is based upon a certain pattern that wives are to be subject to husbands. I mean divine marriage, I mean God's plan in marriage is based upon this fundamental thing. It is the same way when the question comes up of children and their parents. The Bible gives orders to parents, but not first. First it says, "Children, obey your parents," and then, "Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath." It is, "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters," then it is, "Masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven." I say, God always gives the command to the one under authority first, then to the one who is in authority.

So God says here, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." Then, "Husbands, love your wives."

We read in Ephesians 5:33,

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"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." God says that a wife should reverence her husband.

Sometimes I get letters which say, "Brother Rice, I do not think we should call a preacher 'Reverend.'" Well, it doesn't especially matter. I am from the south and am accustomed to people calling me "Brother" Rice. Sometimes people call me "Dr." Rice. I have the degree, and that is all right, but I like the old southern term, "Brother." But it isn't strange that we should want to call a preacher "Reverend" because here even a wife is commanded to reverence her own husband. Ladies, that is God's plan, not mine.

In Titus 2:4, 5 the question comes up again. There the scripture exhorts aged women to "teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."

Yes, the older women are to teach the younger women to be obedient to their own husbands. Wives are to be obedient to husbands.

Some woman may say, "I don't want to obey my husband." Well, children do not want to obey their parents, servants do not want to obey their masters, workmen do not want to obey their bosses, and the rest of us do not want to obey the laws of the land. We do not like always to keep the speed limit. We would rather have our own way. But Christian people are going to have to knuckle under and do what God has said. God's plan is that Christians are to be subject to those in authority over them. So as we are to be subject to the laws of the land, as children are to be subject to their parents, as pupils are to be sub-

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ject to their teachers, so wives are to be subject to husbands.

Some woman may feel, "But I am just as good as he is." Well, I think I am as good as the mayor of my city, too, only I'm not mayor. I feel I am just as good as the policeman on the corner directing traffic, but I am not the policeman; he has the authority. It may be that I am as good as the governor of my state. I think so. He may differ with me. But the point is, he is governor and I am not. So, then, the wife is to be subject to her husband. That is God's plan.

Somebody says, "But, Brother Rice, my husband is not even a Christian. I have a husband who will not listen to the Bible. I have a husband who doesn't love God first. What about that?"

In I Peter the third chapter the Lord has a word written exactly for you women who are married to unsaved husbands. In verses 1-6 we read:

"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement."

Here the Bible says, 'Be subject to your husbands so that even if they do not obey the word they may be won by the conversation of the wives while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear or reverence or respect for them.' Wives can win their husbands, not by rebellion, not by a proud and haughty spirit, or arrogant words. Wives can win their husbands by being subject to them.

You may feel, "But I am so much better a Christian than my husband. Do you think, I ought to obey him if I am a better Christian?" Yes, if you are such a good Christian, then it will be easy for you to do right on this matter.

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You just go ahead and do what The Bible says. If you are not a good enough Christian to do what the Bible says a wife should do, I would not trust your Christianity. It is no good—the kind of Christianity that is all in feeling and public testimony and putting on a show for the public, but doesn't make you a good Christian at home. It is a fake, my sister, if that is all you have. If you cannot knuckle under and obey your father, or obey your husband, you are not a good Christian. This is the plain teaching of the Word of God.

Perhaps you think I am old fashioned, but you good women listen. You don't win by wearing pants, or bobbing your hair, or bobbing your character, or cussing, or smoking cigarettes. You don't win! You don't win the respect of your husband. You don't win the love of your children. You don't make your marriage last.

There are some women who feel that if they can keep themselves down in weight by dieting and by getting enough beauty treatments, and have their hair waved and set, and if they go to the beauty parlor enough, maybe they can keep their husbands. But it takes more than that. If you want to grip your husband with hooks of steel and hold his love and devotion so that he will never want to leave you, do as Sarah did. "Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye . . . are not afraid with any amazement." God give us more wives like Sarah!

"But that degrades me," you may feel. Listen, in Christian life here is a lesson I wish you might (Continued on page 8)

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As Jesus Passed

(Continued from page 5)

again. He wants to save you now. Will you believe?"

But wonderful as this age is, it will soon be over. It will be cut off. Jesus said, "When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are" (Luke 13:25).

Oh, the unnoted, silent, fateful, eternal dividing that is taking place among the sons of men! Every person who walks the dirt of earth is being put into one of two groups: saved or unsaved; sheep or goats; wheat or tares; good fish or bad fish. Those are names Jesus gave to the two groups. I cannot know by looking whether a man is saved or unsaved. I may have an opinion, but I cannot wade with any security into that deep sea. God's eye alone can see and know if a man is saved. Every man can know if he himself is saved, yet he cannot judge his neighbor. But God does see, and God does know, and everyone who reads these lines is either saved or lost. I cannot tell God's sheep from the goats. Nevertheless, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, . . . he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left" (Matt. 25:31, 33).

My glasses are not good enough to always distinguish tares from wheat. And Jesus has told me plainly that my job is not digging up tares, "lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them" (Matt. 13:29). But Jesus knows which are tares and which are wheat, and says, "As therefore the tares are gathered

and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world" (Matt. 13:40).

Before I got into the "man-catching" business for Jesus, I used to like fishing as well as any sport in this world. Yet I am not smart enough to discern the bad fish from the good ones among those the Gospel net brings in. But my Lord, at the end of the world, will see that the good fish are taken care of and the bad cast away (Matt. 13:48-50).

Neighbors With Jesus — Yet Eternally Lost

If our Lord's teaching about "sheep and goats, wheat and tares, good fish and bad ones" means anything, it ought to remind you that you can rub shoulders with angels, yet end in Hell. That thought is worth chewing on. It's pretty solemn. There was Judas who lived with Jesus, looked into His clear eyes, heard His matchless voice, and felt the impact of the sublimest truths that ever caused visions of Heaven's glory to shine before earth's sinners. But he ended in Hell.

And in the hour when the tentacles of Hell were stretching forth to seize on the folks of our text, Luke tells us the best argument they had was that they had been close to Jesus. Oh, what an hour! Heaven's door, shut. The Lord and His own, inside. They are outside. Their hands are blue and bruised as they knock frantically, crying, "Lord, Lord, open unto us." What argument will desperation produce? What more will they say? Listen: "We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, thou hast taught in our streets." But it's not good enough. The Lord's voice drifts back to them. distant as

though born across a great abyss, "I tell you, I know you not, whence you are. Depart from me, ye workers of iniquity." Ah, what artist can paint that picture? What Milton can find words to put it into poetry? What Handel can write in wild crashing, discordant notes, the throb and ache of lost sinners facing blackness and darkness forever?

Oh friend, you may not feel it now, but you will then. Esau sold his birthright with a light heart, and sat down to enjoy a mess of rich, red beans. But afterward . . . Oh, if men could only see the afterward — Esau, the worm of remorse gnawing his heart away, "afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears" (Heb. 12:17).

Esau waited too long. Will you? There will be no gate crashing into Heaven. Said Jesus, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven." Only Jesus, personally received now into your heart, will make you sure for Heaven. Oh, that I could make the words of Jesus burn before the sleepless eyes of every lost sinner waiting, hoping for mercy in the last day. Jesus holds out no such hope. He says, "Then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. 7:23).

Ages ago, before the flood, God said, "My spirit shall not always strive with men." The Lord has had long patience; "He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." But the day of salvation is passing. The hour is late. Dark floods of judgment are gathering to break over a lost, Christ-rejecting world. God's ark of safety is Christ. One of these days the last man will stagger up the gangplank

and cast himself on Christ for mercy. God will say, "Enough." He will shut the door. As with Noah's ark, "The Lord shut him in."

*"The floodgates were opened, the deluge came on,
The heavens as midnight grew dark,
Too late, then they turned, every foothold was gone,
They perished in sight of the Ark.
O Sinners, the heralds of mercy implore,
They cry like the patriarch, 'Come';
The Ark of salvation is moored to your shore,
Oh, enter while yet there is room!
The storm-cloud of Justice rolls dark overhead,
And when by its fury you're tossed,
Alas, of your perishing souls 'twill be said,
'They heard—they refused—and were lost!'"*

One last look at the man of our first text: Matthew. How much of Matthew's life before this hour the text leaves us to imagine. What soul hunger had been gnawing him? What longings for a better life, for power to live above his passions, for strength to live according to his better impulses? Were all his hopes vain?

Then Jesus passed and Matthew was ready. Jesus said to Matthew, "Follow me." And he arose and followed him. That was a moment when Heaven rejoiced, when earth was brighter, and God was glad.

Do you hear the voice of Jesus? He is near you now. Don't let Him pass by. He says, "Follow me." He says, "Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out." He says, "Come unto me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Grip His offer of mercy. Cast yourself at Jesus' feet, now.

Decision For Christ

The editor now urges you to decide for Christ at once. Will you here and now repent of your sins and trust Christ to save your soul? Jesus is passing by. This may be the last opportunity you will ever have. It is certain you will never have a better one after this. If you will take Christ as your own Saviour, then tell Him so in your heart, admit you are a sinner, ask Him to forgive you, depend upon Him here and now as your own Saviour. Then sign the decision form below, copy it in a letter and mail to me at once. I will send the happy news to Missionary Norman Lewis and will send you a letter of encouragement and counsel. Decide now! Then sign, copy and mail your statement.

Dr. John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
241 West Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Missionary Norman Lewis' sermon, "As Jesus Passed By." Oh, before He passes me this time I want Him to forgive my sins and save my soul. I honestly confess to Him that I am an unworthy sinner. Here and now I ask Him to forgive my sins; this moment I put my trust in Him and depend on Him to be my own personal Saviour. He said, "He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life," so here and now I trust Him and take Him and claim Him. By God's grace I will start today to live for Him and will confess Him as my Saviour and will try to please Him.

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Bird Life in Wington

By Calvin Reid



Mr. Flicker was always knocking everything.

THE EASTER SPIRIT

Mr. Flicker was as happy as a lark as he dressed for church on Easter morning. He was rather proud of his new brown suit—"a perfect fit," he said as he eyed himself over his shoulder. Then he smoothed down his little black mustache which the barber had trimmed just right the day before.

It was something new for Mr. Flicker to wake up in such a happy mood on Sunday morning. Usually he got up in a grouch. To tell you the truth, he was quite a knocker. He knocked trees, he knocked fence posts, he knocked the neighbors, he knocked the government, he knocked the church. Knocking trees and fence posts was all right, of course—"there's no harm in knocking on wood"—but when Mr. Flicker knocked the church, he only hurt himself. But as Mr. Flicker tucked a brown handkerchief in his coat pocket to match his stunning tie, he was in anything but a knocking mood—in fact he was whistling a familiar tune:

"Oh, what a beautiful morning
Oh, what a beautiful day
I've got a wonderful feeling
Everything's going my way."

"Oh my goodness," said Mrs. Flicker jumping off her roost. "I had forgotten about it being Easter. We are going to church today, aren't we?"

"Sure, we're going," replied Mr. Flicker. "We went last Easter and also the Easter before. We must not break a good habit like that. Besides, the children always expect us to go with them on Easter."

"Yes, I know, said Mrs. Flicker. "I overheard them talking yesterday. Miriam said to Henry, 'I wish Easter would come every week so Mother and daddy would go with us to church every Sunday.'"

"I wish something better than that," Henry answered. "I wish we would soon grow up so we wouldn't have to go at all, except on Easter and Christmas."

"I sometimes wonder where our children get such funny ideas," said Mr. Flicker.

"I know," replied his wife. "It's from the Mocking-bird children. Their parents go with them to church every Sunday and the whole family stays for both Sunday School and Church."

"I can hardly imagine anyone being that old-fashioned in these modern times," remarked Mr. Flicker. "That's the way our parents raised us. But hurry up, Goldie, I want us to get a decent

seat this year. Remember last Easter, we had to sit away back in a corner in the balcony. I couldn't even see the minister. What was it he preached about anyway?"

"Don't ask me," replied Goldie. "I had not even finished looking at all the new Easter outfits when the service was over. I was never so humiliated as when I saw Fanny Yellow-Hammer with a hat just like mine."

"What humiliated me," replied Mr. Flicker, "was having to sit 'way up in the balcony. It does look as though the people who go to church every Sunday would give up their seats for once to us who come on Easter. It all goes to show, as I have always said, the church is full of hypocrites. But let's get going. I'll get the airplane out and meet you and the children at the front door."

On the way out he saw his neighbor, Mr. Woodpecker, taxiing out his airplane too. "Don't tell me you are going to church, Red! Don't you know the roof will cave in?"

"You're a fine one to talk," Mr. Woodpecker shot back, "I bet the preacher will wish you a Merry Christmas because he won't see you again 'till then." Then both of them laughed heartily as if it was the most wonderful joke in the world to poke fun at the church.

In the vestibule of the church Mr. Flicker was all smiles. He knew that he and his wife were two of the best dressed birds in Wington and he enjoyed the fluttering attention of the usher. He was still feeling important when the offering plate was passed and put in a whole dollar—or was it a dollar with a hole in it? Anyway, he put it in with great satisfaction. Or, perhaps his satisfaction came from the fact that three Tens and four Fives remained safely in his purse.

There was just one thing which changed Mr. Flicker's Easter spirit—Pastor Penguin's sermon. It was the strangest Easter sermon the Wington congregation had ever heard. It was based upon a story in the New Testament—A

Be Wise . . .

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Parable, Pastor Penguin called it, about two men who went up to the Temple to pray.

One was very proud and self-satisfied. His prayer was, "God, I thank Thee that I am not as other men; that I am so much better than most of these people here today." The other man was very humble and penitent. His prayer was, "God be merciful to me, a sinner." This second man, so the story went, was the one who received God's blessing that day. The proud, self-satisfied man received no blessing at all.

"I do not think that the first man went to the Temple very often," said Pastor Penguin. "Why should he? His God was himself. His cup was already full. The man whose cup was empty—the man who felt his need of God—I think he must have come back to the Temple again and again. And each time he came in that spirit, he found a new blessing."

Mr. Flicker got the point of course. It was too plain for him to miss, and to his credit I must say that after the sermon he quietly closed his eyes and asked God to forgive him for his pride and self-centeredness and vowed that he and his family would attend church every Sunday as did the Mocking-birds.

On the way home he said to his wife, "Well, that is the sermon we needed, I suppose. If the shoe fits, we ought to put it on, but I wonder why he talked about men instead to birds? What a strange way to preach."

"I suppose," Mrs. Flicker an-

learn. The way down is up. "He that humbleth himself shall be exalted." That is God's plan. Oh, these proud and haughty people! You cannot get along with God. Oh, these people who want their own way! I wish every woman would only consider that rebellion against her husband is just the same as the rebellion of children against parents. That is the background of child delinquency. Why should any woman expect her children to respect her when she doesn't respect her husband? Why should any woman expect her children to respect the law when she doesn't teach them to respect her husband and their father? Many a woman is the very key who could straighten out this matter in her own home, but she is a rebel, and the curse of God is on her and her children because she is a disobedient, disrespectful rebel.

Some of you women no doubt feel, "But, Brother Rice, I do not like to give up my own way about things and be subject to my husband." Yes, that is why the prodigal boy left home and went into the far country and landed in the hog pen. That is the reason some angels fell from Heaven and became demons. The fallen angels did not want to obey authority. Satan himself was not willing to be subject. That is why he fell from Heaven. And that is the reason every criminal is behind bars. They were not willing to be subject to the law and obey orders.

Oh, dear woman, if you are a Christian, how can you expect

swered, "that he was trying not to be too personal!"

(From *Bird Life in Wington*, by Rev. J. Calvin Reid. The twenty-fourth of thirty chapters to appear regularly in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. This book may be had for \$1.50 from Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, Ill.)

God Says Woman to Obey

(Continued from page 6)

God's blessings with such a proud and unholy, arrogant heart? I would make up my mind today, "God helping me, I will be a Christian at home. I will win my husband." If he is already a Christian, how much more you ought to respect and love and obey him, even as Christ says: "Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." This is God's plan, and how wonderfully God pays.

Perhaps you are doubtful whether or not it will work. Well, if you are, you tell God that. You just say, "God, I believe your Bible is a lie. I don't think it works. I don't think I can win my husband by being subject to him." You go ahead and tell God that you think your husband will lead you out into sin. But God says, "likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives."

(Every Christian family should have the big book, *THE HOME: Courtship, Marriage and Children*, by Evangelist John R. Rice. It is a Bible manual on the home and deals much more thoroughly with the problems of marriage and home than these messages could do. 381 pages, Sword of the Lord Publishers, Price \$2.50, during special August sale, \$2.00.)

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